

THE MINUTES
April 10, 2009

The Holmes County Commissioners met in regular session Friday, February 10, 2009, with Mr. Eyer absent due to illness. Chairman Miller opened the meeting:

DICK BIBLE, GREG GURNEY, CHRIS BARCOLLE, DR. KORNHOUS, JOE WENGERD & TRYOER - COUNTY ROAD 77 INTERSECTION DISCUSSION

Dick Bible, Greg Gurney & Chris Varcolla of O.D.O.T, Dr. Kornhaus of East Holmes Family Care, East Holmes Superintendent Joe Wenger, Gary Mellor East Holmes Fire Chief and James Troyer of Troyer County Mart met with the Commissioners to discuss the County Road 77 Intersection by East Holmes High School/ Middle School.

Miller explained the situation at that intersection and would like to know what is happening with this project. Barcolla updated everyone on this project. There have been several options discussed as to what to do at this intersection. Barcolla also informed everyone that this intersection has not showed up on the top 200 dangerous intersections on Ohio and they will continue to monitor this intersection.

Miller everyone is frustrated of not being able to get out and we deserve better then the honor system to get in or out of this intersection.

Kornhaus mentioned the stop light at the State Route 250 and Kidron Road intersection that the cost was around \$53,000.00 to improve that intersection. Kornhaus wondered if it would be possible to raise the funds to have a light put in that intersection and put in turn lanes. Gurney informed him that it takes a lot more to do a project of this size. Wengerd would like to know if there would be obstacles in what Kornhaus is asking. Gurney informed them that the biggest problem is the Bunker Hill Project and the design fix and relocating County Road 77. This project would be very similar to the Bunker Hill Project and putting the turn lanes in without right away is nonexistent, you are looking at Millions of dollars to do this project.

Mellor stated that cars are still, passing on the right regardless of the turn lanes at a high rate of speed.

Questions were raised on how a project in Sugarcreek got funded. Gurney explained that there are different pots of money and that money for Sugarcreek came from the Enhancement Funds. Gurney also stated that design for this intersection would have to be to current design criteria and this prohibits using District Funds for this type of project. Bible stated that when you get involved with State or Federal funds, there are certain guidelines that you can not get around.

Gurney also explained that there are 28 million dollars a year spread throughout the State and that does not go very far.

Bible understands the situation, but O.D.O.T has rules to abide by.

Miller asked what O.D.O.T would recommend to do next? Should we contact our Representatives? Gurney stated that O.D.O.T. has not supported the use of Congressional earmarks. If there happens to be an earmark leftover, this intersection could be a place were they could spend it.

Ault would like to know if it is possible just to get the light put in at this time without doing anything else. Gurney informed Ault that if there was a fatal accident with just the light, then O.D.O.T would be liable.

Miller said that the next step would be to pursue this issue further. Gurney will continue to work with us and do everything that they can to make this happen. Bible assured everyone that the issue with this intersection has not been ignored and we are taking steps in the right direction.

The Commissioners appreciated everyone coming and attending the meeting.

ADJOURN MOTION

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Eyler moved that the meeting be adjourned at 4:30 p.m.; Mr. Miller seconded the motion (Mr. Miller - yes; Mr. Eyler – absent; Mr. Ault - yes). The next scheduled business meeting of the Holmes County Commissioners is Monday, February 13, 2009.

Joe D. Miller

Raymond Eyler

Attest: Susan L. Haun, Clerk

Rob Ault